

## **Peer Review Reporting Checklist for the Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle 12-Month finding/proposed delisting rule**

This checklist describes information that will be posted on the Web when we conduct a peer review, following guidelines detailed in the [OMB Peer Review Bulletin](#).

### **About the document**

- Petition finding and proposed rule to remove the threatened valley elderberry longhorn beetle (*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*) from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife.
- This is a proposed rule to delist this invertebrate.
- The proposed rule was delivered to the *Federal Register* in September of 2012, with a publication on October 2, 2012.
- A second comment period on the proposed rule was reopened on January 23, 2013 (78 FR 4812) for 30 days.

### **About the peer review process**

- The peer review process includes written requests and confirmation from at least three species and/or habitat experts to conduct peer review of the upcoming proposed rule, followed by individual letters mailed to the experts requesting their review upon publication of the proposed rule.
- During the initial comment period (October 2, 2012 to December 3, 2012) the Service contracted the peer review out to a third party. Four peer reviewers were selected by the contractor.
- Primary expertise needed for the review are those familiar with the life history and habitat requirements of this threatened invertebrate.
- The estimated start date of the peer review was concurrent with the open comment period following publication of the proposed rule in the *Federal Register* (October 2, 2012 to December 3, 2012).
- The peer review was conducted in the winter of 2012-2013 and a final copy of the peer review report was received during the second open comment period (January 23, 2013 to February 22, 2013).

### **About public participation**

- The proposed revised rule provides a public comment period of 90 days. The rule identifies specific information requested from the public on the revised rule. Public comments are to be submitted either electronically through [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) or by hard copy to the Service (Division of Policy and Directives Management).

### **Contact**

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